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Jim Epolito raves about Canton, Plymouth and the 7th Senate District

CANTON—State Senator Bruce Patterson, 7th District, sponsored the 21st Century Jobs Fund Forum at the Summit on the Park in Canton on July 17. Jim Epolito, Director and CEO of the Michigan Economic Development Corporation (MEDC) was the guest speaker.

“I’m so encouraged by the leadership in the 7th Senate District, especially Senator Patterson’s willingness to bring everyone together to achieve such great things here,” said Epolito. “The Summit on the Park is a wonderful example of what can be accomplished when citizens come together to achieve the goal of making their community a better place to live. That is the type of thing we are trying to accomplish with the 21st Century Jobs Fund.”

Attending the forum were state Rep. Phil LaJoy, 21st District; Canton Supervisor Tom Yack; Plymouth Township Supervisor Richard Reaume; Canton Trustee Todd LaJoy; and Natalie Rose, representing U.S. Rep. Thaddeus McCotter. Entrepreneurs and representatives of local colleges and universities were also in the audience. The forum provided information about the MEDC and its involvement in making Michigan a more attractive place to do business.

Three companies in Plymouth are finalists in the first round of grants offered by the 21st Century Jobs Fund. They are Fraunhofer USA, AVL—North America and Industrial Technology Institute. Epolito stressed that it is important for a community to retain businesses and employees for Michigan’s economy to grow. Patterson said that he was encouraged by the wealth of knowledge and the initiative of the people in attendance.

“Michigan is at a crossroads, and with the help of the 21st Century Jobs Fund and the backing of the Legislature, Michigan can be transformed!” said Patterson.

The 21st Century Jobs Fund is designed to spark new investment, creating an enhanced environment for high-technology companies to emerge and spurring jobs that will diversify the state’s economy. For more information go to www.michigan.org.

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